

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6673

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 CAPE TOWN 0156

VALLETTA FOR ANDREW YOUNG AND MOOSE

E.O. 11652: ADS, DECONTROL UPON RECEIPT

TAGS: PDEV, WA, RH

SUBJECT: VORSTER STATEMENT ON RHODESIA AND NAMIBIA

REF: PRETORIA 0146,

1. SINCE OFFICIAL HANSARD TRANSLATION WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR SEVERAL DAYS, THERE FOLLOWS THE EMBASSY'S OWN UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION OF THE FULL TEXT OF PRIME MINISTER VORSTER'S JANUARY 30 REMARKS TO PARLIAMENT ON NAMIBIA AND RHODESIA.

2. BEGIN QUOTE: IN THINK IT'S A GOOD IDEA ON THIS OCCASION
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THAT I SAY A FEW WORDS IN CONNECTION WITH WHAT IS GOING ON IN SOUTH WEST AFRICA AND RHODESIA. PARLIAMENT WILL REALIZE THAT THERE ARE IMPORTANT TALKS GOING ON IN SALISBURY, TALKS WHICH THE S.A. GOVERNMENT AS WELL AS OTHERS ARE FOLLOWING ATTENTIVELY. ON THIS OCCASION I WILL SAY NOTHING WHICH CAN IN ANY WAY INFLUENCE OR DAMAGE THESE TALKS. I WILL ONLY SAY THAT I BELIEVE

THAT THESE TALKS HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CONTRIBUTE TO A SOLUTION, EVEN IF THEY IN THEMSELVES DO NOT LEAD TO A SOLUTION IN RHODESIA. THEY ARE, HOWEVER, A VERY DELICATE ARRANGEMENT AND HAVE COME FAR. THEREFORE, IN THE NAME OF THE SOUTHERN AFRICAN SUBCONTINENT, I ASK OUTSIDERS TO LIMIT THEIR INTERFERENCE IN THIS MATTER TO A MINIMUM. INTERFERENCE BY OUTSIDERS CAN DO FAR MORE HARM THAN GOOD. I HESITATE TO COMMENT ON NEWSPAPER REPORTS, BUT I READ IN THIS AFTERNOON'S ARGUS THAT THERE ARE RUMORS CONCERNING THE POSSIBLE CALLING IN OF NIGERIAN AND INDIAN TROOPS, AMONG OTHERS, TO MOZAMBIQUE. I SINCERELY HOPE THAT THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT WOULD NOT TAKE SUCH A FOOLISH ACTION, BECAUSE FOR ME IT IS UNTHINKABLE THAT A GOVERNMENT COULD DO THIS, AND THERE ARE VERY FEW THINGS WHICH I CAN THINK OF WHICH HAVE THE POTENTIAL TO CREATE GREATER TENSION, DISCORD AND UNREST, JUST AS IT COULD LEAD TO ENDLESS CHAOS AND MISERY. SOUTH AFRICA HAS OVER THE YEARS SPARED NO EFFORT AND DONE EVERYTHING IN HER POWER TO BRING ABOUT PEACE IN OUR PART OF THE WORLD. WE DID NOT DICTATE OR INTERFERE. I WILL NOW GIVE THE ASSURANCE TO HONORABLE MEMBERS THAT WE HAVE NOT DONE SO IN THIS CASE. PEACE IS IMPORTANT FOR US. WE HAVE SUPPORTED ALL EFFORTS IN THIS REGARD TO THE BEST OF OUR ABILITY. I BELIEVE THAT THIS IS ALSO THE SPIRIT IN WHICH MOST WHITES AND BLACKS IN RHODESIA ARE CONDUCTING LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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THEMSELVES. I TRUST, TOGETHER WITH THE HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE, THAT WE WILL EXPERIENCE THE COMING OF PEACE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

3. AS CONCERNS SOUTH WEST AFRICA, I HAVE NOT THE SLIGHTEST HESITATION IN SAYING TO THE HOUSE THAT AS FAR AS THE VARIOUS POLITICAL ELEMENTS ARE CONCERNED, THERE IS NOTHING WHICH REMAINS TO BE DONE FROM SOUTH AFRICA'S SIDE. OVER THE YEARS WE HAVE TAKEN THE STANDPOINT THAT THE PEOPLE OF SOUTH WEST AFRICA WILL DECIDE ON THEIR OWN FUTURE AND THAT WE WILL ACCEPT THOSE DECISIONS EVEN IF THEY ARE AGAINST OUR OWN OPINIONS OR POLICIES. OVER THE YEARS THEY MET AND PUT FORWARD THEIR POINTS OF VIEW. WE ACCEPTED THOSE POINTS OF VIEW. OVER THE YEARS IT WAS DEMANDED OF S.A. THAT THE TERRITORY BE GIVEN INDEPENDENCE AS A WHOLE. THE TERRITORY WILL BE GIVEN INDEPENDENCE AS A WHOLE. IT WAS DEMANDED OF US THAT THE AREA BECOME INDEPENDENT ON THE BASIS OF ONE-MAN, ONE-VOTE. THE PEOPLE OF SWA MADE THIS DECISION. AS FAR AS S.A. IS CONCERNED, WE WILL NOT STAND IN THE WAY OF A SINGLE DECISION. I WILL, HOWEVER, MAKE VERY CLEAR THAT S.A. IS NOT READY TO NEGOTIATE WITH

SWAPO IN THIS CONNECTION, AND IS NOT READY TO ABIDE
BY THE DECISIONS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OR THE
SECURITY COUNCIL TO HAND SWA OVER TO THE ADVERTURER
NUJOMA AND HIS MARXIST SWAPO ORGANIZATION.

4. WE HAVE RECENTLY, BEGINNING LAST YEAR, HELD
TALKS WITH THE FIVE WESTERN MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY
COUNCIL. I WILL HONESTLY SAY THAT WE COULD HAVE COME
FURTHER WITH THOSE TALKS THAN WE HAVE COME. IT IS
NOT S.A.'S FAULT THAT WE HAVE NOT COME FURTHER. IT
IS TRUE THAT MY COLLEAGUE, THE HONORABLE MINISTER OF
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, WILL IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE HOLD
TALKS WITH THE FOREIGN MINISTERS OF THE FIVE WESTERN
MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL. THESE ARE TALKS AT A
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VERY HIGH LEVEL AND WE WILL TAKE PART IN THESE TALKS
IN THE HOPE AND TRUST THAT WE CAN REACH FINALITY AND
RESOLVE THE DIFFICULTIES, BECAUSE SWA MUST AND SHALL

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VALLETTA FOR ANDREW YOUNG AND MOOSE

BECOME INDEPENDENT THIS YEAR, AND IF SWA MUST BECOME INDEPENDENT THIS YEAR, THEN THE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FIRST ELECTION WHICH WILL LEAD TO THAT INDEPENDENCE MUST NOT BE DELAYED TOO LONG. INDEED, THE DATE SHOULD ALREADY HAVE BEEN ANNOUNCED. IT WAS HELD BACK ONLY FOR THE SAKE OF THESE TALKS AND BECAUSE LAST YEAR WE WENT OUT OF OUR WAY, WITH THE KNOWLEDGE AND THE COOPERATION OF THE PEOPLE OF SWA, TO TRY TO OBTAIN INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR THEIR INDEPENDENCE. WE SHALL ONCE AGAIN ATTEMPT IN THESE TALKS TO GAIN THAT INTERNATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR THE PEOPLE OF SWA. THERE MUST BE HASTE IN THIS MATTER AND I CAN WELL UNDERSTAND THAT

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RESENTMENT IS BEGINNING TO ARISE IN SWA IN THIS CONNECTION. I CAN ALSO UNDERSTAND--BECAUSE THERE ARE VARIOUS POLITICAL ORGANIZATIONS IN SWA--THAT RESENTMENT EXISTS AMONG THOSE ORGANIZATIONS OVER THE FACT THAT THE WESTERN WORLD GOES OUT OF ITS WAY TO HOLD TALKS WITH SWAPO AND NUJOMA BUT NOT WITH THE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS IN SWA. IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT THERE APPARENTLY ARE STILL TODAY CERTAIN FOREIGN REPRESENTATIVES WHO ARE PREVENTED BY THEIR GOVERNMENTS FROM GOING TO SWA. IF THIS IS SO, IT WOULD BE A GOOD GOAL FOR THEM TO CHANGE THAT POSITION.

5. CERTAIN DEMANDS ARE MADE ON US BY SWAPO. WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO MEET THOSE DEMANDS BECAUSE WE ARE RESPONSIBLE NOT ONLY FOR LAW AND ORDER IN SWA, BUT ALSO FOR THE PROTECTION OF THE LIVES AND PROPERTY OF THE PEOPLE AND THE PROTECTION OF THE COUNTRY ITSELF. OUR SECURITY FORCES ARE THERE AT THE INVITATION OF THE CURRENT GOVERNMENTS AND BY VIRTUE OF THE ORDER THAT WE HAVE TO PROTECT THE TERRITORY, AN ORDER THAT IS INHERENT IN THE MANDATE ITSELF. IF YOU ASK ME: "WHAT OF SWA IN THE END?", THEN I SAY: WE ARE HONESTLY COMMITTED TO THE PEOPLE OF SWA TO MAKE THEM INDEPENDENT THIS YEAR, AND WE WILL FULFILL THIS DUTY.

END QUOTE

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